

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-4. (Withdrawn)

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) A process for filtering a feed water comprising the steps of:


- (a) providing a tank containing modules of filtering membranes;
- (b) introducing a feed water to the tank to keep the modules immersed in feed water in the tank;
- (c) withdrawing a filtered permeate from the modules;
- (d) withdrawing a retentate from the tank;
- (e) introducing bubbles into the water in the tank to inhibit fouling of the membranes, the bubbles also causing ~~increased amounts of~~ a gases to be liberated from the water in the tank; and
- (f) collecting the ~~gases~~ liberated from the water in the tank in step ~~(e)~~ and returning the collected gases to the tank by way of the bubbles.

Claim 6. (Presently Amended) The process of claim 5 wherein the collected gases includes carbon dioxide.

Claim 7. (Original) The process of claim 6 wherein 80% or more of the carbon dioxide liberated from the water in the tank is returned to the tank.

Claim 8. (Original) The process or claim 7 wherein the feed water in the tank has scaling tendencies.

Claim 9. (Original) The process of claim 7 wherein the feed water has a Langlier Scaling Index of greater than 0.5 before being introduced into the tank.

 Claim 10. (Original) The process of claim 7 further comprising the step of adding coagulants to the feed water in the tank.

Claim 11. (Withdrawn)
